



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Harvey Dale DeFord et al.  
Appl. No. : 09/973,844  
Filed : October 9, 2001  
For : COMPOSITE BUILDING  
MATERIAL  
Examiner : Kevin McDermott  
Group Art Unit : 3635

RESPONSE TO ADVISORY ACTION

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Advisory Action mailed December 17, 2003, enclosed is a copy of the Request for Continued Exam (RCE) and Amendment filed on November 21, 2003. Also enclosed is a copy of the check submitted with the RCE to cover the filing fees.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to enter into record and consider the claims and arguments submitted in the Amendment. Should there be any impediments to the prompt allowance of this application that could be resolved through a telephone conference, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned at the number shown below.

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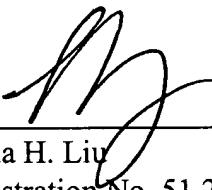
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Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 1/9/2004

By:   
Linda H. Liu  
Registration No. 51,240  
Attorney of Record  
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(909) 781-9231

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

November 21, 2003

(Date)

Linda H. Liu, Reg. No. 51,240

**AMENDMENT**

**Mail Stop AF**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed August 21, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as indicated below.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.